

HISTORICAL COIN REVIEW

Volume XIII, No. 2

Spring, 1988

A Fixed Price List

Featuring

CLASSICAL COINS

of

Roman Egypt

Catalogued by

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72

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CONDITIONS:

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All coins are photographed for your consideration.

Other Alexandrian Coins - This is but a selection of the coins we have in stock in the Alexandrian series. If you are a serious specialized collector of this series and are looking for other items please don't hesitate to correspond directly with the office.

Office Hours - Please note that office hours are as follows. Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. If you call after hours expect to get the answering box. As we travel a lot of the time, please be patient. Someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Good Luck and Good Hunting !!!!

INTRODUCTION TO THE COINAGE OF ROMAN EGYPT

"Cleopatra's fate was not of course my only concern, hardly even the chief one. The most urgent was the treatment of Egypt itself. I decided it was too rich and too important to be left in its semi-independent state; Julius had surely blundered in deciding so. Egypt must become a Roman province, for the food supply of Rome itself depended on its harvests. Moreover, I thought it best to keep it, for the time being at least, under my direct control. I therefore appointed Cornelius Gallus, a man in whom I reposed infinite trust, as its governor."

From AUGUSTUS - A NOVEL, by Allan Massie (Sceptre Publishing, 1986, Great Britain) - A novelized translation of the autobiography of the Emperor Augustus found in the Macedonian monastery of St. Cyril Methodius in 1984 and authenticated by an international team of scholars. This version by Mr. Massie was authorized by the International Editorial Committee established to supervise and guide The Augustus Project.

This quotation illustrates Augustus' motives in making Egypt the personal property of the Emperor himself, and the subsequent isolation of its economy. This occurred after Augustus' defeat of Antony and Cleopatra at the Battle of Actium in 31 BC and their deaths in 30 BC. A secondary result of these events was the development of a coinage that combined facets of the cultures of the Greeks, Romans, and the Egyptians. This, alone, makes the Alexandrian coinage (as it is commonly called in reference to the mint city of Alexandria) a fascinating subject to study and collect. As the development of the coinage progressed for Roman Egypt, the mint officials and die-engravers at Alexandria were given much latitude in their choice of reverse designs and motifs. This resulted in a coinage of unparalleled interest.

Augustus chose to isolate Egypt, and his successors continued this tradition, for the most part successfully, for almost 284 years. In the following, I will briefly discuss some of the more important aspects of this coinage. This is intended only to be introductory in scope, and I hope it will stimulate more interest in this provocative coinage!

ALEXANDRIAN Denomination Set



Billon Tetradrachm



AE Drachm



AE Hemidrachm



AE Diobol



AE Obol



AE Dichalkon



AE Chalkon

Coins pictured are from the Kerry K. Wetterstrom Collection
and are not offered for sale.

DENOMINATIONS OF ALEXANDRIAN COINAGE

The evolution of the Alexandrian denominational system is rather complicated, and I will only briefly discuss it in this context. After his defeat of Antony and Cleopatra, Augustus followed the Ptolemaic system for a time and bronze coins dated before his assumption of the title Augustus are of the same size and weight as the issues of Cleopatra (and likewise bear the marks of value of P(80) and M(40)). Until 20 AD the Romans retained the Ptolemaic silver coinage as legal tender, and issued no silver at Alexandria. Due to the "closed economy" of Egypt, neither Roman nor provincial issues were permitted to circulate there. The Ptolemaic silver drachm was valued at six obols, but apparently commanded a premium when exchanged for bronze. Then Tiberius introduced the billon tetradrachm with a silver content approximately that of the Roman denarius, and it was equated in value with the former Ptolemaic silver tetradrachm (which was, indeed, nothing more than billon itself by the time of Cleopatra and continued to circulate until the the reign of Nero) and with the Roman denarius.

Officially, this new billon tetradrachm was valued at 6 obols but private business used a 6 to 7 1/4 obol standard as papyri records indicate. Silver drachms of Roman Egypt are known only for Claudius who issued billon drachms and didrachms both of which are extremely rare.

After the assumption of his new title, Augustus issued bronze on the old Attic standard with a bronze drachm of six obols (although, he did not actually issue any drachms himself). The new bronze issues continued with slight modifications in size and weight until the reign of Nero. Nero added two new denominations - the drachm and hemidrachm. Since Nero's drachm was approximately the same size and weight as the Roman sestertius, they have traditionally been equated. Whether this is valid since the Alexandrian system of coinage was totally fiduciary must remain debatable, and the exact identification of the various Alexandrian bronze issues is still indefinite.

Three denominations of bronze were struck by Claudius (diobol, obol and dichalkon), five denominations by Nero, Vespasian, Domitian, Trajan, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius; three by Marcus Aurelius, and two by Commodus, Septimius Severus and Caracalla. Sporadic, isolated issues of bronzes are known for later rulers, the most important of which are drachms - probably more commemorative in nature than not - issued by Severus Alexander, Philips I and II, and Gallienus.

In addition to the five traditionally accepted bronze denominations of Alexandrian coinage, I would argue for a sixth - the chalkon. I have seen or owned several such chalkoi of the emperors Trajan, Hadrian, and Marcus Aurelius, and they are of such diminutive size and weight that it would tend to substantiate a different denomination (especially the weight which averages just over 1 gram). The following table lists the denominations known for the Alexandrian coinage, and it includes approximate relationships between them, although, this is of my own reckoning and not definitive.

<u>DENOMINATION</u>	<u>ROMAN EQUIVALENT</u>	<u>RELATIONSHIP</u>
Tetradrachm	Denarius	24 Obols
Drachm	Sestertius	6 Obols
Hemidrachm	Dupondius	3 Obols
Diobol	As	2 Obols
Obol	Semis	4 Chalkoi
Dichalkon	Quadrans	2 Chalkoi
Chalkon		24 to a Dr.

DESIGNS AND MOTIFS ON ALEXANDRIAN COINAGE

The obverse design of Alexandrian coinage was always a bust of the current ruling emperor (or a member of his family, a secondary ruler, or a favored associate such as Antinous under Hadrian) with the inscription in Greek - an attribute common to all the coins in the "Greek Imperial" series. "Greek Imperial" applies to all Roman provincial issues that had Greek inscriptions with Roman portraiture on the obverse. The choice of reverse designs for the Alexandrian coinage, though, constitutes an unique selection of types not seen elsewhere for the most part.

Briefly, some of the "areas" represented on the reverses are: the gods of Egypt, Greece and Rome (and combinations thereof), personifications of various virtues such as Nike (Victory), Dikaiosyne (Equity), Eirene (Peace), and Elpis (Hope) to mention a few as well as the personifications of the two cities of Alexandria and Rome, mythological types such as the Twelve Labours of Herakles, Apollo's triumph over Marsyas, and the Judgment of Paris, the twelve signs of the Greek zodiac (i.e. "Venus in Taurus" and "Saturn in Aquarius").

Other choices of reverse types are: the Wolf and Twins (Romulus and Remus), clasped hands, various animals both mythical (griffin) and real (hippopotamus), temples, ships, altars, arches, wreaths, bigas and quadrigas (such as a modius in biga of oxen), cornucopias, and trophy and captives. Some of these categories are represented by specimens in the following catalogue.

DATING OF ALEXANDRIAN COINAGE

Alexandrian coinage is dated based on the Egyptian calender, rather than the Roman, which means that the "new year" began on August 29, and the Emperor dated his second and subsequent regnal years using this date. In other words, if an Emperor came to power on July 1 and ceased to rule the Empire on October 1 of the same year, then he still had two regnal years in Egypt.

Basically, this means that one can collect Alexandrian coins by year for each issuing Emperor (remembering that the Alexandrian mint produced coins only when they were needed).

On the coinage, we encounter two representations for "year." The word "ETOYC" for year in the genitive case is used infrequently, or most often the symbol "L" is used to represent "year." "L" is a "development of a conventional sign, taken from the demotic script, where it means 'year;' or, perhaps less likely, it is a reduced form of the first letter of ETOYC." Another theory is that "L" is a modification of an ancient Egyptian hieroglyph for year. The following table lists most of the forms a year can be represented on an Alexandrian coin either in conjunction with the symbol "L" or the word "ETOYC."

YEAR GREEK EQUIVALENT

1	A
2	B ΔΕΥΤΕΡΟΥ (*)
3	Γ ΤΡΙΤΟΥ
4	Δ ΤΕΤΑΡΤΟΥ
5	Ε ΠΕΜΠΤΟΥ
6	ς or S
7	Z ΕΒΔΟΜΟΥ (*)
8	H ΟΓΔΟΟΥ (*)
9	HA (*) ΕΝΑΤΟΥ
10	I ΔΕΚΑΤΟΥ

YEAR GREEK EQUIVALENT

11	ΙΑ ΕΝΔΕΚΑΤΟΥ
12	ΙΒ ΔΩΔΕΚΑΤΟΥ
13	ΙΓ ΤΡΙΕΚΑΙΔΕΚΑ
14	ΙΔ
15	ΙΕ
16	Ις or IS
17	ΙΖ
18	ΙΗ
19	ΙΘ ΕΝΝΕΑΚΑ
20	Κ

(*) Listed in Geissen but seldom encountered.

One other note is that the spelled out version of the date (i.e. ΕΝΔΕΚΑΤΟΥ) can be encountered on the coins in a multitude of abbreviated forms (i.e. ΕΝΔΕΚΑΤ or ΕΝΔΕΚ).

THE GRADING OF ALEXANDRIAN COINAGE

Grading is a topic that you will not read in any scholarly work on Alexandrian coinage, but since this is a commercial publication and we are offering the catalogued coins for purchase, we will discuss some of the idiosyncrasies of grading as it pertains to the Alexandrian series.

The coinage of Roman Egypt as struck at the Alexandria mint was, on the whole, crudely manufactured at all stages including die-engraving, flan manufacture and preparation, and the actual striking of the coins. Why then, you may say, would anyone want to collect it! Well, in order to collect it, you must not make quality your first priority or you will be frustrated to the point of tearing your hair out (no comments please)!

Actually, though, there are some excellent examples of coinage struck at Alexandria, particularly, under Hadrian and Antoninus Pius - probably the zenith for Roman Egypt. These coins are far superior to anything else to ever come out of the Alexandrian mint.

Another point to keep in mind in regard to Alexandrian coinage is that it was heavily circulated for the most part (especially bronze) well into the Byzantine era. Coins were only minted when needed and not on any regular basis, hence you have large gaps when certain denominations were not minted or when an emperor such as Septimius Severus (who is very common for Rome issues) minted very few coins at Alexandria for political as well as economic

reasons.

The average condition for Alexandrian bronzes is probably "Fine," hence coins in better condition command a premium. Flan cracks are very common especially on the large bronzes due to the fact that the planchets were cast, reheated, and then struck. Bronzes without flan cracks, corrosion, porosity, and encrustation do command a premium, but do not down-grade a coin too severely for these faults as they occur frequently even on high-grade coins. Eye-appeal on Alexandrian coins is something that you develop after looking at hundreds of coins, and deciding what you will and will not allow for!

Tetradrachms, overall, are more available in high grade due to the fact that they were often hoarded. It seems strange to hoard a coinage that did not have much if any intrinsic value and was fiduciary in nature, but the people who buried these coins must have had some sort of faith in their currency and government. Tetradrachms from about Commodus on are rare when "silvered" and as such command a premium. The percentage of silver in the billon tetradrachms ranged from around 50% or higher for some issues of Tiberius to about 4% during Marcus Aurelius' reign and then 16% during Commodus' reign. After Commodus' reign, the tetradrachms are not considered "billon" any longer, rather they are now called "potin," and their silver content ranges from about 10% during Severus Alexander's tenure to less than 1% for issues of Diocletian.

COLLECTING ALEXANDRIAN COINAGE

At this point, you should have a good grasp on some of the ways to collect Alexandrian coinage. To illustrate this point one can collect Alexandrian by: emperor, denomination, year, reverse types (i.e. certain gods or goddesses, etc.), and just about any other way you can imagine. You can specialize within the series or try to collect the entire series - a lifetime project but it would probably keep your interest.

The economics of collecting Alexandrian, also, are varied. The series has appreciated greatly in the last few years and has attracted a new following of enthusiasts. But, overall, it is still inexpensive when compared to the Roman Imperial series. Probably, drachms in VF and better have

appreciated the most, but compared to a sestertius they are still reasonable in high grade. The following catalogue consists mostly of better coins, but lower grade coins are always available at quite reasonable prices (just write us a note if your budget dictates that this would interest you).

The historical and cultural education that comes with collecting Alexandrian is also quite worth the time to consider this series. To conclude, if any of our customers/readers have any special requests for Alexandrian coins, please do not hesitate to contact us as we actively work want lists.

FACTS AND FICTION

Alexandrian versus Alexandrine

Often when I am asked what I specialize in and I reply "Alexandrian," the response is "Oh, coins of Alexander the Great!" This is an easily confused point but the technical name for coins of Alexander the Great is "Alexandrine" not "Alexandrian."

Fantasy Issues



Obv. Bust of Octavian(Augustus) left enclosed within a wreath.

Rev. Facing busts of Cleopatra and Mark Antony, illegible date? above between busts.

AE 33mm, 14.36 grams

This fantasy coin is an interesting attempt to create what would be a very important historical coin if real. It appears that possibly a real Alexandrian drachm planchet was used, and after "erasing" the previous design (which would account for why this coin is underweight), a new design was struck on the planchet. The coin was probably acid-treated or something similar to create the illusion of wear from circulation.



"Obv." Warrior (Mars?) standing left on mound wearing a "Corinthian style" helmet and holds a shield in left hand and right hand is raised. PMTPPX IICOSIPP around.

"Rev." Bust of Asklepios right wearing taenia, to right serpent-staff, behind palm branch, above the serpent-staff; L I (Year 10).

This coin was probably just a "curiosity" item struck for some unknown reason. It is cast from base metal, and the "obverse" is an imitation of a Roman coin reverse while the "reverse" shows Asklepios - the Greek god of healing and medicine. This is a direct copy of a reverse type used on Alexandrian coins, and it is known for several rulers but not necessarily for year 10.

The preceding two coins are offered for your "amusement" only and they are not offered for sale.

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Milne, J.G., *Catalogue of Alexandrian Coins in the Ashmolean Museum*, 1971. (New York reprint)

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We currently have in stock the New York-1982 reprint of Milne for \$50.00. This is still one the standard references on Alexandrian coinage. Please specify this list and Milne when ordering.

COINS OF ROMAN EGYPT - MINT OF ALEXANDRIA

1. **NERO.** Year 10(63/64 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. ΝΕΡΩ ΚΑΛΥ ΚΑΙΣ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡ ΑΥ. Radiate bust right / Bust of Poppaea r., hair in queue, behind ΠΟΠΠΑΙΑ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΗ, to r. L I. G.157, C.138-142. VF. \$125.00

Poppaea died from the effects of an "accidental" kick from her husband, Nero, in 65 AD.

2. ____ Year 147(67/68 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. (ΝΕΡΟ ΚΑΛΥ ΚΑΙΣ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡ ΑΥ. Radiate bust left, to l. ΛΙΑ./Bust of Zeus Nemeios r. w/Aegis. ΝΕΜΕΙΟΣ (ΙΕΥΣ), to r. a star. G.205, C.185. VF \$95.00

This reverse type is one of the series issued by Nero commemorating the patron-deities of the Greek Festivals. The series also includes Zeus Olympios, Hera Argeia, Poseidon Isthmios, and Apollo Aktios and Pythios.

3. **VESPASIAN.** Year 2(69/70 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. (ΑΥΤΟΚ ΚΑΙΣ ΣΕΒΑ ΟΥΕΣΠ(ΑΣΙΑΝΟΥ) Laur. Bust r., to r. L B. / Nike flying left, holds wreath in r.h. & palm in left. G.276-277. About VF. \$50.00

4. ____ Year 2(69/70 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. ΑΥΤΟΚ ΚΑΙΣ ΣΕΒΑ ΟΥΕΣΠ(ΑΣΙΑΝΟΥ). Laur. bust r., to r LB. / ΕΙΡ(Η)ΝΗ Eirene stg. l., holds corn & poppies in r. hand and caduceus in left. G.274-275, C.252-255. aVF, reverse off-centered. \$45.00

5. ____ Year 3(70/71 AD). AE Drachm. (ΑΥΤΟΚ ΚΑΙΣ ΣΕΒΑ ΟΥΕΣΠ(ΑΣΙΑΝΟΥ) Laur. Bust r. / Bust of Nike facing right. L Γ to r. G.288. VF, hard pale green patina. \$135.00

6. **DOMITIAN.** Year 4(84/85 AD). AE Diobol. ΑΥΤ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑΝΟΣ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ Laur. Bust r. / Apis bull standing right, in front an altar; above L Δ. G.338 Good VF, green-black patina (very light scratches on bust) Scarce. \$200.00

7. ____ Year 11(91/92 AD). AE Obol. ΑΥΤΚΑΙCΑΡ ΔΟΜΙΤΙΕΒΓΕΡΜ Laur. head right / Dolphin entwined around an anchor, i.f., ΛΙΑ. G.381, D.600, BMC 318. F/aF, lt. brown patina. Scarce. \$55.00

8. **NERVA.** Year 1(96/97 AD). AR Tetradrachm. ΑΥΤ ΝΕΡΟΥΑΣ ΚΑΙΣ ΣΕΒ Laur. Bust r. / Eagle standing r.; in field L A. G.429-430, C.299-304. Good VF. Red hoard patina on obv. \$150.00

9. ____ Same as #4. VF \$100.00

10. **TRAJAN.** Year 5(101/102 AD). AR Tetradrachm. ΑΥΤ ΚΑΙΣ ΝΕΡ ΤΡΑΙΑΝ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ Laur. Bust r. / Eagle standing r.; in field L E. G.450-451, C.328-328a. Good VF, fully centered. \$90.00

11. ____ Year 14(110/111 AD). AE Hemidrachm. ΑΥΤ ΤΡΑΙΑΝ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ ΔΑΚΙΚ Laur. Bust r. / Lighthouse of Pharos, in field L I Δ. G.561. About VF, rare type and denomination for Trajan. Green & Red patina. \$225.00

The Lighthouse of Pharos was on the eastern summit of the small island of the same name in front of the harbor of Alexandria. It was a white marble tower, built for Ptolemy II Philadelphos by Sostratus of Cnidus, in 270 BC. It is considered to have been one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, and in later times all the lighthouses were called PHAROS after it.

12. ____ Year 18(114/115 AD). AR Tetradrachm. ΑΥΤ ΤΡΑΙΑΝ ΑΠΙ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ ΔΑΚΙΚ Laur. Bust r., radiate star to r. / Bust of Sarapis r. wearing Himation., i.f. L I H.G.664. VF, Red Hoard patina. \$60.00

Sarapis or Serapis was a combination of the Egyptian god Osiris, god of the lower world; and his corresponding incarnation as the god of the upper world - the Apis Bull. His worship was encouraged and developed by the Ptolemies of Egypt as he satisfied both the native Egyptians and the Greek residents of Ptolemaic Egypt. This new religion (together with the cult of Isis) spread rapidly all over the Asiatic coast to Greece itself and the Roman Empire, particularly under Hadrian. Sarapis is most often portrayed on coins wearing the modius, or corn-measure, the symbol of the lower world, upon his head.

13. ____ Year 19(115/116 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. ΑΥΤ ΤΡΑΙΑΝ ΑΠΙ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ ΔΑΚΙΚ ΠΑΡ Radiate Bust r., to r., star. / Bust of Zeus right wearing Himation, i.f. L I Θ. C.346var. Choice XF, superb light olive-brown patina. \$395.00

14. ____ Year 19(115/116 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. ΑΥΤ ΤΡΑΙΑΝ ΑΠΙ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ ΔΑΚΙΚ Laur. Bust r., star to right. / Dikaioyne standing left, holds scales & cornucopiae, i.f. L I Θ. G. 684, C.323. VF. \$75.00

15. ____ Year 19(115/116 AD). AE Drachm. ΑΥΤ ΤΡΑΙΑΝ ΑΠΙ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ ΔΑΚΙΚ ΠΑΡ Laur. Bust right wearing Aegis. / Ares r., armed with helmet and cuirass; holds sheathed sword with belt and spear; facing him, Athena left, wearing helmet and aegis, rests on shield and holds spear, in field L I Θ. G.689,D.811var. Good VF, brown-black patina on obv. with green-red patina on reverse. \$245.00

16. ____ Year 19(115/116 AD). AE Drachm. ΑΥΤ ΤΡΑΙΑΝ ΑΠΙ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ ΔΑΚΙΚ Laur. Bust r. wearing Aegis. / Zeus seated left on throne; holds sceptre and thunderbolt; at his feet an eagle l., looking back. On back of throne Nike, i.f. L I Θ. G.701,BMC 402var. VF, olive-brown patina. \$175.00



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17. ____ Year 19(115/116 AD). AE Drachm. (AYT TP)AIAN API ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡ(M) (ΔΑΚΙΚ) Laur. Bust r. wearing Cuirass and Aegis./Dionysos reclining left in cart drawn by two pantheresses; the nearer looks back. Dionysos holds thyrsos (a staff surmounted by a pine cone that is an attribute of Dionysos) in r. hand, i.f. L I Θ. BMC.419var., G.____, M. ____ CH.VF, beautiful brown- pale green patina. Very rare. \$450.00

Dionysos was the Greek god of luxuriant fertility, especially as related to the vine; thus he was the god of wine. He is often shown reclining with a dreamy expression, and the panther was sacred to him thus he is drawn by two pantheresses on this coin.

18. ____ Year 20(116/117 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. AYT TPAIAN API ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡ(M) ΔΑΚΙΚ ΠΑΡ Radiate Bust r., star to r. / Dikaiosyne standing left, holds scales & cornucopiae, i.f. L K. G.706, C.325-327. Good VF. \$70.00
19. ____ Year 20(116/117 AD). Billon Tetra drachm. AYT TPAIAN API ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡ(M) ΔΑΚΙΚ ΠΑΡ Radiate Bust r., star to r. / Sarapis bust right, wears modius, taenia(filllet or headband) and himation, i.f. L K. G.708, C.341 Good VF \$80.00
20. **HADRIAN.** Year 4(119/120 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. (AYT KAI) TPAI AAPIA ΣΕΒ Laur. Bust right. / Canopus of Osiris r., full headdress, i.f. L Δ. G.784, C.370. About VF, dark brown patina; obv. light corrosion at 1 o'clock. \$85.00

The obverse bust style is typical of the early Alexandrian coins of Hadrian in as much that they resemble Trajan. It appears that the die-engavers in Alexandria did not receive an official image of Hadrian until later into his reign. The reverse of this coin shows a Canopus of Osiris which is related to the Canopic jars in which were placed the embalmed viscera of the mummy. The name is said to have been adopted for the jars because of their resemblance to a form of "Canopus" worshipped in the place of that name. The city, Canopus, was located twelve geographical miles east of Alexandria on the westernmost mouth of the Nile (the Canopic mouth). Canopus was a most important place in ancient Egypt before the founding of Alexandria overshadowed it.

21. ____ Year 5(120/121 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. AYT KAI TPAI AAPIA ΣΕΒ Laur. Bust r., crescent to r. / Hippopotamus standing r., above L E. G.812, D.1575. About VF. \$70.00

The ancient Egyptians worshipped a goddess represented as a hippopotamus called Ta-urt or Thoueris. She was the wife of Set, and was worshipped at Thebes as Apet. Some at Thebes believed that she had also given birth to Osiris, brother to Set. She was sometimes called the "good

nurse" for she presided at the birth of children.

22. ____ Year 5(120/121 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. Obv. same as # 17 / Hippopotamus standing r., in exergue L E. G.813, C.440var. About VF. \$70.00
23. ____ Year 6(121/122 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. AYT KAI TPAI (AΔPAI ΣΕΒ) Laur. Bust r., crescent to r. / Canopus of Osiris r., full headdress, i. f L ζ. G. 825, C.371. About VF, dark red-brown patina. \$80.00
24. ____ Year 6(121/122 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #19 / Eagle standing r., i.f. L ζ. G.821, C.396. VF, scattered hard red patina on good silver. \$70.00
25. ____ Year 8(123/124 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #19 / Tyche standing r., modius on head, holding cornucopiae in l. hand; r. hand on rudder, i.f. L H. to l. G.861, C.551. VF, red-brown patina. \$80.00
26. ____ Year 11(126/127 AD). AE Obol. AYT KAI TPAI AΔPAI ΣΕΒ Laur. Bust r. / Two cornucopiae; i.f. L I A between. G.961, M.1237, D.1915. VF, some minor encrustation. \$85.00
27. ____ Year 11(126/127 AD). AE Obol. Obv. same as # 22. / Modius with corn-ears inside, torch on either side, i.f. L I A. G. 969, M.____. Good VF, red-brown patina. \$125.00
28. ____ Year 12(127/128 AD). AE Hemidrachm. AYT KAI TPAI AΔPAI ΣΕΒ Laur. Bust r., wears paludamentum cuirass and aegis. / Euthenia recumbent l., wears chiton & peplos, in r.h. corn with poppies, left arm rests on androsphinx r., in exergue L ΔωΔΕΚ. G.989, BMC 802. About VF, light brown patina w/ green highlights. \$165.00

Euthenia was the spouse of the river god Nilus, and her name means "Largess of Corn" as she originally had been a personification of abundance or plenty.

29. ____ Year 14(129/130 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. AYT KAI (TPAI AΔPAI ΣΕΒ) Laur. Bust r; wears paludamentum cuirass and aegis. / Helios Bust r., radiate, wears chlamys, i.f. L I Δ. G.1002, C.429-434, BMC 584. VF. \$125.00
30. ____ Year 14(129/130 AD). AE Hemidrachm. Obv. same as #24 / Isis Pharia r., looking back left, wears chiton and peplos; holds inflated sail with both hands and l. foot. In field to l., L I Δ. G. 1016, BMC. 750-751. About VF, reddish brown patina. \$195.00

Isis Pharia (or Isis) was originally the wife of Osiris and mother of Horus, but in the Alexandrian pantheon she became the wife of Sarapis (see comment under #8). Her local popularity was great



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and as Isis Pharia (from Pharos) she is represented as on the above coin. In this connotation Isis Pharia is the patron goddess of seafarers and navigation. On some of the Isis Pharia reverse types she is shown holding a Sistrum (an ancient Egyptian percussion instrument consisting of a thin metal frame with many metal rods or loops that jingle when shaken - not stirred!).

31. ____ Year 15(130/131 AD). AE Drachm. Obv. same as #24. / Alexandria, wearing an elephant headdress, greeting the Emperor Hadrian who wears a Toga and holds a Sceptre. The Emperor is extending his r. hand to Alexandria, who kisses it; she wears chiton and peplos, in her left hand a corn-ear., i.f. L I E. G. 1034, D.1610. Superb XF, beautiful green-brown with some red patina. \$450.00

Alexandria, a female personification of the city, appears quite often on Roman Egyptian coins for obvious reasons. On this coin she wears an elephant-scalp, an allusion to the city's namesake, Alexander the Great. This coin commemorates Hadrian's visit to Egypt as does the next coin.

32. ____ Year 15(130/131 AD). AE Drachm. Obv. same as #24. / Emperor in quadriga r., his r. hand extended, in left aquila; before him, Alexandria left meeting him, wears elephant-scalp, her r. hand extended, in left vexillum. In exergue L I E. G.1037, BMC.868, M.1314. Good VF, reddish brown patina. \$250.00

33. ____ Year 18(133/134 AD). AE Drachm. AYT KAIE TPAIAN AAPI(ANOE SEB) Laur. Bust r., wears paludamentum cuirass and aegis. / Nilus reclining l., he is crowned with lotus and wears himation over lower limbs, holds reed and cornucopiae; resting on crocodile r. i.f. upper left L I H. G.1126, D.1790. Good VF, smooth brown surfaces. \$150.00

34. ____ Uncertain Year. AE Hemidrachm. Obv. same as #29. / Pharos represented as a circular tower, surmounted by a lantern; on the summit, a statue holding a sceptre in l. hand; on either side of the lantern, a Triton blowing buccinum(Horn-trumpets). Similar to G.1082. About VF, light brown patina with some red splotches. \$165.00

35. SABINA. Year 15(130/131 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. CABINA CEBACTH Draped bust r., stephane on head. / Sabina seated left on backless throne, wears hair in roll on forehead and queue behind; holds corn and sceptre, CABEINA LIE CEBACTH. G.1263, C.561. Good VF. \$130.00

36. ANTONINUS PIUS Year 4(140/141 AD). AE Hemidrachm. AYT K T AIA AΔP ANTΩ(NINOS EYSEB) Radiate Bust r., wears paludamentum cuirass and aegis. / Demeter standing left, wears peplos as veil and chiton with diplois; holds corn in r.h. and long torch in left. I.F. to left L Δ. G.1339. Ch.VF, green-dark brown patina. \$300.00

During the first five or six years of Antoninus Pius' reign the obverse bust style of the hemidrachms is radiate with few exceptions. It is this writer's theory that since the radiate crown does not appear anywhere else during the coinage period of Antoninus, then, perhaps, this was an attempt to relate the Roman Egyptian coinage more closely to the Imperial coinage of Rome i.e. the dupondius in this case. It may have only been coincidental, but considering some of the remarkable coinage issued in Alexandria during the reign of Antoninus Pius - - the Labors of Hercules and Zodiac drachm series - - this may be plausible. The Governor of Egypt during the period that the mythological drachm series were produced was supposedly from Greece proper and his influence on the coinage is unmistakable, and, perhaps, the mint officials, die engravers, etc. were more creative and skilled thus being more experimental with the coinage(they, too, may have been from Greece). This ranges from the mundane - - radiate busts on hemidrachms - - to the sublime - - the beautifully engraved Labors of Hercules on the Drachms.

37. ____ Year 5(141/142 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. ANTΩNINOS (Σ)EB EYΣ(EB) Laur. bust r./ΦAYET INAΘEA, Faustina Senior stg. l., wearing chiton with peplos, rests l. hand on long sceptre, with r. h. dropping ball of incense on flaming altar, i.f. L E. G.1369v, C.623. VF, rare. \$125.00

38. ____ Year 7(143/144 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. ANTΩNINOS SEB EYSEB Laur. bust r./Sarapis std. l., on high-backed throne, l.h. on sceptre, r.h. extended over Kerberos(three-headed guard dog to the entrance of Hades) seated at feet. , i.f. L Z. G.1440, C.662. Good VF, red hoard patina. \$85.00

39. ____ Year 10(146/147 AD). AE Drachm. AYT K T AIA AΔP ANTΩNINOS SEB EYΣ Laur. head r./"Herakles Shooting the Stymphalian Birds" Herakles r., lion's skin on head and shoulders, draws bow, wears quiver suspended, two birds falling to right, ΔΕΚΑΤ Ο (V) around. G.1538, BMC 1049, D.2587v. Good F, green-black patina. \$400.00

This coin portrays one of the twelve labours of Herakles(the sixth) issued under Antoninus Pius(see comment under #36). They are all quite rare but this is probably one of the more common types if any of them can be called such. The series is popular and I am presently doing research on the die linkages within this series and the "Zodiacal" series. This will be a continuation of the research started by Carl W. A. Carlson published in SAN IV, 1972/73. I would appreciate any information our readers can provide as to specimens owned, and photos of such if possible. (The Stymphalian birds were large man-eating birds that had beaks, claws and feathers of brass.)



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40. ____ Year 10(146/147 AD). AE Drachm. ΑΥΤ Κ Τ ΑΙΑ ΔΑΡ ΑΝΤΩΝΕΙΝΟΣ ΣΕΒ ΕΥΣ Laur. head r./Zeus reclining l., himation over l. arm and lower limbs, holds patera and sceptre; supported by eagle facing, head l., wings open. L ΔΕΚΑ Τ ΟΥ around. G.1560, D.2933v. Good VF, dark green-black patina w/ some minor red encrustation on obv.. \$275.00

41. ____ Year 10(146/147 AD). AE Drachm. Obv. legend as #40 Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass and aegis./Isis Pharia r wears horns disk and plumes, clad in chiton & peplos, which flies behind her; holding inflated sail with both hands and l. foot, in r. hand a sistrum(see note under #30). L ΔΕΚ ΑΤΟΥ around. G.1551, BMC. 1115, D.2667.Good VF, nice green-brown patina. \$350.00

42. ____ Year 11(147/148 AD). AE Drachm. Obv. same as #41./Elpis, standing l., holds flower and raises skirt of chiton. ΛΕΝΔΕ ΚΑΤΟΥ around. G.1578, BMC.1065, D.2543v. Good VF, dark brown patina w/excellent surfaces. \$195.00

43. ____ Uncertain Year(Probably Yr. 20=156/157 AD). AE Obol. ΑΝΤΩΝΙΝΟΣ ΣΕΒ ΕΥΣΕΒ Laur. head right/Stag stg. r., i.f. L K(?). G. ____ D. ____, M. ____, BMC. ____, Dem. ____, SNG Cop. ____, Hunterian ____, (apparently unpublished). VF/F, porous w/brown patina. \$60.00

44. ____ Uncertain Year(Probably Yr. 9=145/146 AD). AE Drachm. Obv. same as #41/Ares stg. facing, head r., wears helmet cuirass & cothurni(high thick-soled laced boots), sword-belt slung across r. shoulder, holds spear in r.h. and rests l. on shield. (LENA) ΤΟΥ (?) around. G.1516v, BMC 1038. Good VF but with harsh corrosion about peripheral edges, dark green patina. \$250.00

45. MARCUS AURELIUS Caesar Year 14 (150 /151 AD). AE Drachm. (M AV)ΦΗΑΙC ΚΑΙ(CAP) Bareheaded bust r. wearing paludamentum cuirass./Eirene stg. l., wears chiton and peplos and r. hand hold corn-ears, l. arm cradles caduceus, i.f. L I Δ. G. 1918, M. 2109, D.3201v. aVF, brown-olive green patina. \$150.00

46. ____ Year 14(150/151 AD). AE Drachm. Obv. same as #45./Griffin seated r., left paw on wheel., i.f. L I Δ. G.1919, D.3224, M. 2121. Fine, light porosity, reddish-brown patina. \$95.00

47. FAUSTINA JUNIOR Year 13(149/150 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. ΦΑΥCΤΙΝΑ CEBACHT Dr. bust r./Athena stg. l., holding figure of Nike in r. hand, holds spear in l., shield at feet, i.f. L I Γ. G. ____, C.677, M. 2033V. aVF, some lt. porosity. \$65.00

48. ____ Year 15(151/152 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. ΦΑΥΤΙΝ CEB CEB EVCEB ΘΥΓ Dr. bust r. /Di-kaio-syne stg. l. wearing chiton and peplos, holds scales in r. hand, cornucopiae in l., i.f. L I E. G.1959, C.682v., BMC 1316. VF. \$110.00

49. ____ Year 15(151/152 AD). AE Drachm. Obv. is same as #48/Tyche recumbent l., wears modius and holds rudder with r. hand; raises l. hand to head, couch garlanded., i.f. at top L I E. VF, reddish-brown patina. \$175.00

Often the coins of Faustina Junior struck under her father, Antoninus Pius, are attributed to her mother, Faustina Senior, for the Alexandrian series. Actually, there are not any Alexandrian coins known with just Faustina Senior's portrait except for the THEA issues struck on coins of Antoninus(his portrait on obverse). The "younger style" coins are Faustina Junior under her father, and the "older style" portraits were issued under her husband, Marcus Aurelius.

50. **MARCUS AURELIUS Augustus** Year 3(162/ 163 AD). AE Drachm. M AVPHAIOC ANTWN(IN OC CEB) Laur. and dr. bust r./Rev. same as #49., i.f. L Γ at top. G.2014. aVF, brown-olive green patina. \$250.00

51. ____ Year 4(163/164 AD) Billon Tetradrachm. Legend same as #50 Laur. bust l./Tyche std. l. on high-backed throne, modius on head, holds cornucopiae in l. arm, r. hand on rudder, i.f. L Δ. G.2027, C.748v. Good VF, dark brown patina. \$165.00

52. ____ Year 5(164/165 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. Legend same as #50 Laur. & dr. bust l./OMONOIA Clasp hands, below L E. G.2032v., C.724v. Good VF, obv. corrosion, rare. \$125.00

53. ____ Year 10(169/170 AD). Billon Tetradrachm Legend same as #50 Laur. bust r./Laurel wreath enclosing date L I. G.2067v., C.755. VF, dark grey patina, rare. \$165.00

This reverse type commemorates the decennial of Marcus' reign, and except for a few late rulers(i.e. Gallienus), the type is hard to locate in most instances.

54. ____ Uncertain Year. AE Drachm. Obv. same as #50./Eos, wearing chiton and peplos, leading a horse with l. hand and holding torch in r.h. (H) W (C) above(EOS). G.____, M. 2584,D.3450.(Dattari & Milne specimens are of Year 8 which would seem to indicate that this one is too.) aVF, reddish-brown patina, rare. \$175.00

Eos was the greek goddess of "morning," and in Homer she accompanies Helios on his course. Obviously, she was not known to the native Egyptians as her name is spelled out on this type to identify her(she is shown holding one of the horses of Helios on the coin).

55. **LUCIUS VERUS** Year 5(164/165 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. (A AVPHA) OYHPOC CEB Laur. & dr. bust r./Trophy, including crossed oval shields, plain helmet, cuirass, and two javelins on each arm; seated captive below wearing Phrygian cap, APME NIA around, i.f. L E. G.2163, C.770. VF, dark grey patina, very rare. \$850.00

This reverse type is extremely rare and only the third specimen to be offered in recent memory(the Dattari specimen sold in a Credit Suisse/Bern Auction 4, Lot 676, Dec.'85 & a 2nd specimen in Joel L. Malter-"The Coinage Of Ancient Egypt" Auction II-Feb.1978-Lot 347). It commemorates Aurelius' and Verus' victory over the Armenians.

56. ____ Year 8(167/168 AD). AE Drachm. A AVPHAIOC OYHPOCCE Laur. bust r./Nilus seated l., crowned w/lotus, clad in himation over lower limbs and l. arm; holds cornucopiae in r. hand, crocodile below, i.f. to l. L H. G.____, M.____, D. 3752, BMC. 1388v. aVF, dark brown patina. \$225.00

57. **COMMODUS** Year 21?(180/181 AD). Billon Tetradrachm, (M AYPH KOMMO) ANTWN(NINOC CE) Laur. bust r./Trophy, including crossed hexagonal shields, helmet, cuirass, & two javelins on each arm; seated captives below, one with head turned; i.f. (L) K (A). G.2205, C.857, BMC 1441. aVF, corroded surfaces, reddish brown patina. \$45.00

58. ____ Year 24(183/184 AD). Billon Tetradrachm M A KO ANTWN CEB EVCEB Laur. bust r./Emperor stg. before Sarapis bust on column, Emperor wears sacred robes and extends r.hnd. over flaming altar; i.f. K Δ, in exergue L. G.2212, C.817, M.2655.VF, reddish-brown patina, scarce reverse type. \$85.00

59. ____ Year 24 or 25(183/184 or 184/185 AD - known for both years). Billon Tetradrachm. M A KOM ANTWN CEB EVCEB Laur. bust r./Nilus bust r., wears lotus-bud crown, cornucopiae by r. shoulder, i.f. L K (Δ or E). G.2215 or 2222, C.836s. VF, pitted surfaces, black patina. \$55.00

60. ____ Year 27(186/187 AD). Billon tetradrachm Obv. same as #59./Ammon head r. wears disc as crown with ram's horn by ear, i.f. L K Z. G.2225, C.785, M.2668. Good VF, smooth surfaces and red-brown patina. \$175.00

61. ____ Year 27(186/187 AD). Billon Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #59./Laureate bust of Zeus r., i.f. (L) K Z. G.2227, C.862, M.2665. Good VF, rev. off-center, dark brown patina. \$75.00

62. ____ Year 29(188/189 AD). Billon Tetradrachm Obv. same as #59./Nilus std. l. on rocks, holds reed in r. hand and cornucopiae in left, i.f. to l. L K Θ. G.2240, C.837, M.2681, BMC.1427. VF, red-brown patina. \$65.00



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63. **ELAGABALUS** Year 2(218/219 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A KAICAP MA AVP ANTWNINOC EVCEB Laureate bust right/Athena std. l. on high-backed throne, wears crested helmet, rests l. hand on sceptre and in r. hand holds Nike; shield by throne, i.f. L B. G.2310, C.947, M.2746. Good VF, reddish-brown patina. \$125.00
64. ____ Year 2(218/219 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #63/Zeus stg. l. wearing himation over l. shoulder and legs; patera in r. hand, l. hand rests on long sceptre; eagle at feet w/head turned back, to r. L B. VF, reddish-brown patina. \$110.00
65. ____ Year 3(219/220 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #63/Nike flying r., holds palm over shoulder with l. hand, wreath in r. hand, to r. L Γ. G.2320, C.973, M.2775. About VF, reddish-brown patina. \$110.00
66. ____ Year 4(220/221 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #63/Eagle stg., wings open, right, on thunderbolt, wreath in beak, above to l. L Δ. G.2326, C.954, M.2819. VF, reddish-brown patina. \$95.00
67. ____ Year 4(220/221 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #63/Nilus std. l. on rocks, holds reed in r. hand & cornucopiae in left, to l. L Δ. G.2332, C.980, M.2817. aVF, dark brown patina. \$115.00
68. ____ Year 5(221/222 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. legend same as #63 Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Eagle stg. l., head looking r., holds wreath in beak, i.f. L E. G.2338, BMC. 1517, M.2867. VF, reddish-brown patina. \$95.00
69. ____ Year 5(221/222 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #68/Jugate Helios and Selene busts r., Helios is radiate and wears chlamys; Selene wears crescent moon as crown, and chiton; to r. L E. G.2342, C.965, M.2824. VF, reddish-brown patina. \$165.00
70. ____ Year 5(221/222 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #68/Emperor in quadriga left, r. hand raised, sceptre in l., above L E. G. 2344, C. X-958, M.2870. VF, reddish-brown patina. \$145.00
71. ____ Year 5(221/222 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #68/Nike in biga right, holds reins with both hands, horses galloping, above L E. G.2346, C. X-977, M.2846. aVF, reddish-brown patina. \$145.00
72. ____ Year 5(221/222 AD). Potin tetradrachm. Obv. same as #68/Nilus reclining l., crowned with lotus, holds reed in r.h. & cornucopiae in left (little genius emerges r. bearing wreath); other genii climb up Nilus; in front, Nilometer in form of obelisk and a genius is inscribing it on l. side, behind obelisk other genii; in exergue L E. G.2347, BMC 1512, M.2862. Good VF, reddish-brown patina, very rare. \$350.00

This reverse type is interesting in as much as it portrays a Nilometer in the form of an obelisk. I am aware of Nilometers in the form of an inclining ramp (Frank Kovacs shared some photos of one such Nilometer taken by himself). If any of our customers are aware of Obelisk-shaped nilometers, I would appreciate any information that can be provided. This coin and the previous nine coins represents a tremendous opportunity to acquire some rare reverse types for the Alexandrian series as well as Elagabalus.

73. **SEVERUS ALEXANDER** Year 2(222/223 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A KAI MAP AYP (ΣΕΥΗΡ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ ΕΥΣΕΒ) Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Dikaioyne stg. l.; holds scales with r. hand & cornucopiae in left, wears chiton and peplos, i.f. to l. L B. G.2408, M.2887, BMC. 1615v. VF, pitted surfaces, dark brown patina. \$45.00
74. ____ Year 2(222/223 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #73/Nike flying r., holding palm branch in l. arm & wreath in r. hand, to r. L B. G.2409, D.4316, M.2890v. About VF, black patina with some verdigris. \$45.00
75. ____ Year 4(224/225 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #73/Eagle stg. l., head turned back, wreath in beak, i.f. L Δ. G.2418, C.1060, M.2935/36. VF, medium brown patina. \$55.00
76. ____ Year 5(225/226 AD). Potin Tetradrachm (Roman style). A KAI M AYP CEOYHP ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ ΕΥΣΕΒ Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/L ΠΕΜΠΤΟΥ Sarapis stg. l., wears modius, r. hand raised, holds in l. hand a sceptre. G.2434, C.1097v., M.2973. F+, brown patina w/some verdigris & red encrustation on head. \$60.00
77. ____ Year 5(225/226 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. (Roman style). Obv. same as #76/L ΠΕΜΠΤΟΥ Sarapis std. l., left hand on sceptre, Kerberos seated by feet. G.2435, D.4361, M.2975v. VF, brown patina w/some green verdigris. \$45.00
78. ____ Year 7(227/228 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A KAI MAP AY C CY ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ (C EYC). (Blundered legend) Laur. bust r. wears cuirass/Hippopotamus stg. r., above L Z. G.2446, C. X-1071, M. 3020. VF, pitted surfaces w/brown patina, rare. \$250.00
79. ____ Year 11(231/232 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A KAI MAP AYP CEY ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Eagle stg. r., head turned left, wreath in beak; to l. palm branch, to r. L I A. G. ____ , C. ____ , M. 3086. Good VF, red hoard patina. \$125.00



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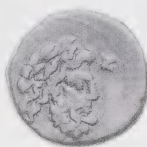
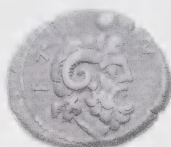
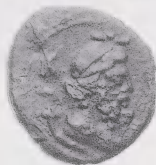
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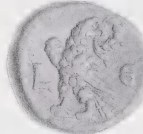
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80. ____ Year 13(233/234 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #79/Tyche stg. l. wears chiton, peplos and modius; holds cornucopiae in l. hand & rudder in right, palm branch to r., to l. L I Γ. G.2492, BMC. 1642, M.3149. Good VF, dark brown patina w/ some green verdigris in devices. \$70.00

81. ____ Year 14(234/235 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #79/Zeus std. l. on high-backed throne, patera in r. hand, l. hand on sceptre; eagle at feet, to r. palm branch, to l. L I Δ. G.2496, C.1113, M.3170v. Good VF, brown patina, nice style & detail. \$75.00

82. **MAXIMINUS** Year 3(236/237 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. AVTO MAIMINOCEVCCEB Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass / Trophy, including crossed oval shields, crested helmet, cuirass, and two javelins on each arm; two captives seated below, i.f. L Γ. G.2576, M.3260, BMC 1808v. VF, reddish brown patina. \$85.00

83. ____ Year 3(236/237 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #82/Hermanubis bust r. wears modius with lotus petal, as crown, also wears himation; he faces upright caduceus-palm combination, to l. L Γ. G.____, C. X-1161, BMC. 1798, M.3250/51. VF, reddish-brown patina, obv. has two severe planchet flaws. \$65.00

Hermanubis, like Sarapis, was a composite god derived from the Greek god Hermes and the jackal-headed Egyptian god, Anubis(An-pu). Anubis, among other things, presided over embalming and served as guide to the souls of the dead. Eventually, a composite form of Anubis and Horus arose, called Harm-Anubis. The next logical step was for the Ptolemaic Greeks to combine this composite god with the Greek god Hermes, who also served as guide to the souls of the dead, and the final name Hermanubis was derived. The coin types always depict Hermanubis with a human head, but his identification with Anubis is shown by an attendant jackal on coins that show him standing.

84. **GORDIAN II** Year 1(238 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K M AN ΓOPAIANOC AΦEV CE Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Zeus seated l. holding patera in r. hand and sceptre in left; eagle at feet, to upper l. L A. G.____, D. 4669, M.____, Hunter 755. Good F, porous surfaces, black patina, extrem. rare. \$1100.00

Contrary to popular opinion, tetradrachms of Gordian II were not all struck from just one obverse die. At least two obverse dies were used(probably not any more), and both are published in the British Museum catalogue(in 1892). The main difference is in the spelling of the legend- one die abbreviates Africanus in Greek as AΦP, and the other die abbreviates it as just AΦ.

85. **GORDIAN III** Year 2(238/239 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K M AN ΓOPAIANOC EV CE Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Nilus reclining l., crowned w/lotus and holds cornucopiae in r. hand, left holds reed which spreads over his head; his l. hand also resting on hd. of hippopotamus reclining r. beneath him, to l. L B. G.2628, BMC. 1900, C.1287/88. Good VF, reddish-brown patina. \$95.00

86. ____ Year 7(243/244 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K M ANT ΓOPAIANOC EV Bust same as #85/ Dikaioyne stg. l. wears chiton and peplos, holds scales in r. hand, cornucopiae in left, a-bove to l. L Z. G.2673, C.1243, M.3471. VF, brown patina. \$75.00

87. **PHILIP I** Year 1(244 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K M IOV ΦIAIΠΠOC EVCEV CEB Laur. & cuirass bust r./Eagle stg. l. with head turned back,wreath in beak; i.f. L A. G.2696, C.1334, M.3520. Good VF, reddish-brown patina. \$45.00

88. ____ Year 2(244/245 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K M IOV ΦIAIΠΠOC EV CEB Laur. & cuirass bust r./Athena stg. r. wears crested helmet, chiton & aegis, holds Nike in l. hand and rests r. hand on spear, shield at feet; i.f. L B. G. 2707, C.1331(Geissen notes that Curtis prob. did not have this coin, thus should be X-1331), M.3529. VF, dark brown patina. \$70.00

89. ____ Year 2(244/245 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #88/Homonoia stg l. wears chiton & peplos, r. hand outstretched, in l. hand double cornucopiae, i.f. to l. L B. G. 2710, BMC. 1959v., M.3539. VF, dark brown patina. \$55.00

90. ____ Year 2(244/245 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #88/Sarapis stg. facing, head r., wears modius(Kalathos), chiton & himation, r. hand rests on sceptre, l. hand enfolded in himation, i.f. L B. G.2713, C.1365/1366, M.35-53. VF, dark brown patina. \$55.00

91. ____ Year 2(244/245 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #88/Athena std. l. on high-backed throne, wears crested helmet; rests l. hand on sceptre, holds Nike (flying inward) in r. hand, shield at base of throne, i.f. L B. G.____, C. X-1330, BMC. 1952. VF, dark brown patina. \$70.00

92. ____ Year 4(246/247 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K M IOV ΦIAIΠΠOC EVC Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Elpis stg. l. wears chiton & peplos, holds flower in r. hand and raises peplos w/l. hand, i.f. L Δ. G.2728, C.1340v M.3652. Good VF, brown patina w/light green verdigris, still attractive. \$80.00



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93. ____ Year 5(247/248 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #92 but legend ends EV/Eagle stg. l., head right, wreath in beak; i.f. L E. G.2734, D.4936, M.3738. Good VF, brown patina, nice surfaces.\$70.00
94. ____ Year 5(247/248 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #93/Tyche reclining l. on garlanded couch wears modius, chiton and peplos; holds rudder with r. hand and raises l. hand to head, i.f. above L E. G.2741, BMC 1978, M. 3714 About VF, brown patina w/some lt. green verdigris. \$55.00
95. ____ Year 6(248/249 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #88 but legend ends ΠΠOC E/Eagle stg. facing, wings open, head turned right, wreath in beak; i.f. L S. G.2748, C.1338/39, M. 3775. VF, red-brown patina, corrosion holes in front of bust and spots of encrustation on reverse. \$40.00
96. ____ Year 6(248/249 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #93/Nike flying r., holds palm with fillet over shoulder w/l. hand, wreath in r. hand, to r. L S. G.2751, C.1352/53, M.3766. Good VF, dark brown patina. \$70.00
97. **OTACILIA SEVERA** Year 4(246/247 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. M WT CCOVHPA CC M CTIA (sic) Legend blundered. Draped bust r. wears stephane/Eusebia stg. facing, head l., veiled, with r. hand sprinkles incense on garlanded altar, holds incense box in l. hand, wears chiton and peplos; above to l. L Δ. G.2770, C.1381v, M.3657. Good VF, brown patina. \$95.00

Eusebia or Pietas was the goddess of dutifulness and piety. Col. James W. Curtis notes that Eusebia "was the only personification so recognizable to the Egyptians that it was never necessary to add a legend of identification to her types." (The Coinage of Roman Egypt: A Survey reprinted in pamphlet form from The Numismatist-1956)

98. **PHILIP II Caesar** Year 2(244/245 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. M IOV ΦΙΛΙΠΠOC K CEB Bareheaded bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Eagle stg. l., head turned back, wreath in beak; i.f. L B. G.2782, C.1392, M.3565. Good VF, reddish-brown patina. \$80.00
99. ____ Year 4(246/247 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. legend same as #98 Bareheaded bust r. wears cuirass/Tyche std. l. on high-backed throne wears modius, chiton & peplos; holds cornucopiae in l. arm, r. hand on rudder, to l. L Δ. G.2793, C.1404/05, M.3672. Good VF, silvered, rare as such. \$125.00
100. **TRAJAN DECIUS** Year 1(249/250 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K Γ M K TPAIANOC ΔEKIOC Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Sarapis stg. facing, head r., crowned with modius; rests r. hand on sceptre, l. hand enfolded in himation, i.f. L A. G.2814, C.1433, M.3804. Good VF, brown patina. \$85.00

101. **GALLIENUS** Year 13(265/266 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. AVT K Π AIK ΓΑΛΛΙΗΝOC CEB Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Nike stg. facing, head left, wings spread, wears chiton & peplos; holds wreath in r. hand & upright palm in l. hand, i.f. L I Γ. G. 2931, M.4117, BMC. 21-92. Good VF, brown patina, nice style. \$55.00

102. ____ Year 14(266/267 AD). Potin Tetradrachm Obv. legend same as #101 Laur. & cuirass bust r./Bust of Selene r. wears chiton and peplos, facing large crescent, to r. of cresc.-palm(off planchet on this coin), behind L I Δ. G.2941, C. X-1619, BMC.2161, M.4127. Good VF, dark brown patina w/lt. pitting on surfaces, excellent style for a tetradrachm this late. \$75.00

103. **AURELIAN & VABALLATHUS** Year 1&4 (270/271 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. (AVT) K Λ Δ AVPHAIANOC CEB Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass, i.f. L A./ IAC OVABAAAΘOC AΘH(NOV AVT CPW) Laur. & diad. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass, i.f. L Δ. G.3054, C.1738, M.4308. Good VF, grey patina w/some lt. silvering on obv., rare this nice. \$110.00

104. ____ Year 2&5(271/272 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. and rev. same as #103 except in field L B on obv./L E on rev. G.3063, C.1746, M. 4331. Good VF, grey patina w/ some silvering. \$110.00

Vaballathus, the son of Zenobia, became joint ruler of Palmyra with his mother when Zenobia's husband-ruler Odenathus was assassinated in 267 AD. They defeated Gallienus' attempt "to restore the lost Eastern provinces to his Empire, and in the reign of Claudius Gothicus she(Zenobia) extended the Palmyrene to include Egypt." Although neither Gallienus nor Claudius II would confer the titles upon Vaballathus that had been conferred upon Odenathus, they could not challenge his power. Aurelian did recognize Vaballathus, hence the jointly issued coinage in Egypt. In 271 AD, however, Vaballathus was proclaimed Augustus, and Aurelian marched against him. He defeated Vaballathus and his mother, and they were taken as captives back to Rome. The independent coinage of Vaballathus and Zenobia in Roman Egypt is, logically, very rare.

105. **AURELIAN** Year 4(272/273 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K Λ Δ OM AYPHAIANOC CEB Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Eagle standing left between vexilla, wings open, head turned back r., wreath in beak; to l. star, above L Δ. G. 3078, C.1785, M.4397. Good VF, brown patina. \$40.00

106. ____ Year 5(273/274 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #105/Eagle stg. facing, wings open, head turned back r., wreath in beak; ETOVC E. G.3083, C.1781, M.4426. Good VF, dark brown patina. \$35.00



107. **TACITUS** Year 1(275/276 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K KA TAKITOC CEB Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Eagle stg. left, head turned back r., wreath in beak; ETOVC A. G. 3113, C.1837, M.4504. Good VF, dark brown patina. \$40.00

108. **PROBUS** Year 2(276/277 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K M AVP IPOBOC CEB Laur.&cuir. bust r./Eagle stg. r., head turned back l., wreath in beak; i.f. L B. G.3125, C.1852, M.45-40. Good VF, brown patina. \$35.00

109. ____ Year 2(276/277 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #108/Eagle stg. l., head turned back r., wreath in beak; i.f. L B. G.3126, C.18-49, M.4546. Good VF, reddish-brown patina. \$35.00

110. ____ Year 2(276/277 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #108/Dikaioyne stg. l. wears chiton and peplos; holds scales in r. hand, cornucopiae in l. hand, below to l. (L) B. G.3127, C.1846, M.4521. Good VF, brown patina, encrustation at 8 o'clock on rev. \$40.00

111. ____ Year 3(277/278 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #108/Eirene stg. l. wears chiton and peplos, holds olive branch in r. hand, long sceptre slanted in l. hand; to l. L E. G.3132, C. 1874, M. 4551. Good VF, brown patina. \$45.00

112. ____ Year 5(279/280 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #108/Homonoia stg. l. wears chiton and peplos; raises r. hand, holds double cornucopiae in l. hand, to l. L E. G.3147, C.18-85, M.4595. VF, light brown patina. \$35.00

113. CARUS Year 1(282/283 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K M A KAPOC CEB Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Eagle stg. r, wreath in beak, palm in background; i.f. L A. G. 3159, C.1903, M.4672. Good VF, brown patina. \$45.00

114. DIVUS CARUS Undated but issued in 283/ 284 AD. Potin Tetradrachm. ΘEW KAPW CEB Laur. bust r./AΦIEP WCIC Flaming altar, garlanded, star to left. G.3167, C.1895, M.47-33v. Good VF, reddish-brown patina. \$45.00

This coin was struck posthumously by Carus' sons, Numerian and Carinus. This "Divus" issue was the only such memorial coin struck at the Alexandrian mint during Roman times.

115. CARINUS Caesar Year 1(282/283 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K M A KAPINOC K Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Eagle stg. facing between vexilla, wings open, head turned to r., wreath in beak; above L A. G.3170, C.1913, M.4679. VF, brown patina, rare. \$50.00

116 ____ Year 1(282/283 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. Obv. same as #115/Tyche stg. l. wears modius, chiton and peplos; holds cornucopiae in l. hand and rests r. hand on rudder, above to l. L A. G. 3172, C. 1929, M.4667. VF, dark brown patina, rare. \$45.00

117. DIOCLETIAN Year 5(288/289 AD). Potin Tetradrachm. A K(Γ OY)A ΔIOKATIANOC CEB Laur. and cuirass bust r./Eusebeia stg. l., wears chiton and peplos; r. hand over plain altar, l. hand enfolded in peplos, i.f. L E. G.3244-46, C.1995, M.4897. VF, typical rough flan, medium brown patina. \$30.00

118. MAXIMIAN Year 1(285/286 AD) Potin Tetradrachm. A K M A OYA MAΞIMIANOC CEB Laur. bust r. wears paludamentum cuirass/Eirene stg. l., wears chiton and peplos; holds olive branch in r. hand, transverse sceptre in l. hand, i.f. L A. C.2064, M.4778, BMC.2553. VF, dark brown patina. \$35.00

119. ____ Year 4(288/289 AD) Potin tetradrachm. Obv. same as #118/Alexandria stg. l. wears turreted cap, chiton & peplos; holds in r. hand Sarapis bust which is crowned w/modius, rests l. hand on sceptre, i.f. L A. G.3299, C.2052, M.4904. Nice VF, dark brown patina. \$35.00

120. ____ Year 5(289/290 AD). Potin tetradrachm. Obv. same as #118/Tyche stg. l. wears modius, chiton & peplos; holds cornucopiae in l. hand, rests r. hand on rudder, above to l. L E. G.3307, M.4932, D.5989. VF, medium brown patina. \$30.00

121. DOMITIUS DOMITIANUS Year 2(297/298 AD). Potin Octadrachm. ΔOMITIANOC CEB Radiate bust r./Sarapis advancing r. wears modius, chiton & himitation; holds transverse sceptre in l. hand, raises r. hand, palm branch behind, to r. L B. G.3367, C.2134, M.5245. VF/VF+, nice olive-green patina, few lt. scr. on bust, extremely rare. \$1450.00

Domitius Domitianus was an usurper in Egypt for at least part of the years 297/298 AD which was during Diocletian's rule. During his rebellion, Domitius reformed the Alexandrian coinage by introducing two new denominations-the octadrachm and didrachm (keeping the tetradrachm already in use). His exact reasons for this are unknown, and he also minted Roman style folles at Alexandria for external trade in the Empire. All of his coins are extremely rare, today, and mark the end of the Alexandrian series of coins (After Diocletian regained Egypt, he converted its currency system over to that of the rest of the Roman Empire).

NOME COINAGE

Arsinoite Nome

122. HADRIAN Year 11(126/127 AD). AE Obol. AYT KAI TPAI ΔAPIA EEB Laur. and draped bust r./Bust of Egyptian Pharaoh r., bearded; wears uraeus and linen headdress, around APCI LIA. (APCI is the abbreviated Greek form of Arsinoite) BMC.71. Nice VF+, green-brown patina. \$175.00

Since the time of the Pharaohs, Egypt was divided into 42 nomes or provinces for administrative reasons. Domitian was the first to issue coinage with a nome's name spelled out on the reverse (usually abbreviated), and this practice was continued sporadically until the reign of Marcus Aurelius. The coins used the Greek names for the nomes and usually had a reverse motif that related to the local cult worship in each nome. Whether the nome coinage was intended for local circulation or not is debatable, but in this writer's opinion it may have been issued for more commemorative reasons such as "gifts" for nome administrators or religious officials (it has been suggested that the reverse types used may have been offensive to local religious officials so this would eliminate them if the case). In any case, the local residents of the nomes did not have much use for coinage as they relied on barter most of the time (although local lead token issues are known for some nomes which an official coinage could have been intended to replace). In conclusion, the great rarity of most of the nome coinage would tend to dispute any large scale circulation plans, but maybe current research being done by others such as the American Numismatic Society will shed more light on this fascinating area.

ENLARGEMENTS
(1 - 2.25 x)



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